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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/775,367	02/01/2001	Barbara L. Farrell	D/A1025Q	8119

7590 11/16/2004

Patent Documentation Center
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100 Clinton Ave. S.
Xerox Square 20th Floor
Rochester, NY 14644

EXAMINER

WORKU, NEGUSSIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2626

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/775,367

Applicant(s)

FARRELL, BARBARA L.

Examiner

Negussie Worku

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6 and 8-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Venable (USPAP 2003/0152272).

With respect to claim 1, Venable discloses a method for automatically detecting an edge of a document in a scanning system, see (col.1, paragraph 0002 lines 1-5) comprising the steps of: calculating a set of first values from the image data using a first function, (using equations shown in col.5, paragraph 0076 lines 14-19, set of first value is calculated), the first function being a first-order function (the function shown in paragraph 0076 of lines 15 is used as first order function when the slope is more vertical); calculating a set of second values from the image data using a second function, (a function shown in paragraph 0076 of lines 18, used to calculate a set of second value) the second function being a second-order function (also used as a

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second order function); determining a second slope value, (the second slope value is determined by equation shown in paragraph 0076 lines 19) the first slope value being a function of the difference between a plurality of the first values, see (col.5, paragraph 0076 lines 15-19); determining a second slope value, the second slope value being a function of the difference between a plurality of second values (a function shown in paragraph 0076 of lines 18, used to calculate a set of second value); and determining a detected edge of the document from the first slope value and the second slope value, see (col.5, paragraph 0076, lines 15-19, where the slope angle is calculated using the equation).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: With respect to claim 7, the prior art does not teach or disclose a method generating a block sum value comprising the sum of a plurality of first values; and determining a detected edge of the document from the first slope value and the block sum value.

Claims having Allowable subject matter

4. Claims 2-6 and 8-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With respect to claims 2 and 8 the prior art does not teach or disclose generating a block sum value, the block sum value comprising the sum of a plurality of second value.

With respect to claims 3 and 4 the prior art does not teach or disclose the method, further comprising: calculating a set of third values from the image data, each one of the third values being a fourth-order statistic; determining a second detected edge of the document from the set of third values; and reconciling the detected edge and the second detected edge to obtain the document edge.

With respect to claims 5 and 6 the prior art does not teach or disclose the method, further comprising: calculating a plurality of block values, each block value comprising a mean of a plurality of first values; and verifying the detected edge using the plurality of neighbor block values.

With respect to claims 9 and 10 the prior art does not teach or disclose the method, further comprising: calculating a set of second values from the image data using a second, the second function being a fourth-order function.

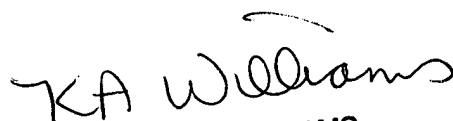
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Negussie Worku whose telephone number is 305-5441. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on 703-305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Negussie Worku
11/11/04



KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER